



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Violet Varona-Lukens, Executive Officer
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, California 90012

Auditor-Controller
Chief Administrative Officer
County Counsel
Director of Consumer Affairs
Director of Mental Health
Executive Officer/Clerk of the Superior Court
Treasurer and Tax Collector

At its meeting held November 22, 2005, the Board took the following action:

20-C

Supervisor Antonovich made the following statement:

“As a result of my motion regarding the Public Guardian in September 2004, Blue Consulting concluded a Public Guardian Special Study, and made numerous recommendations for improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the Public Guardian's operations and services delivery. The Public Guardian must continue its efforts in establishing and preparing for future allocation of funds and resources expected as a result of the growing age population in Los Angeles County – expected to double over the next decade. Emphasis must also be added regarding the current organizational structure and responsibilities of staff within the Public Guardian as referenced in the Blue Consulting recommendations. A sense of urgency, accountability, and responsibility are also key elements in addressing referrals to the Public Guardian.

“In May 2005, we directed the Chief Administrative Officer to work with the Department of Mental Health on a graduated allocation of funds for staff resources in the Public Guardian probate conservatorship program, starting with the 2005-06 fiscal year. However, allocation decisions made were based only on current unmet needs. Further analysis must be conducted regarding increases in the aged population, the monitoring of public and private conservators, and in reducing the number of elderly in-need population who are not currently receiving services.

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“It is also imperative that we preserve and expand all volunteer programs such as the Guardian Circle that enrich the lives of conservatees who are often isolated by their disabilities. We must continue to support all volunteer groups that are willing and able to provide these vital services.”

Warren Williams addressed the Board.

After discussion, on motion of Supervisor Antonovich, seconded by Supervisor Yaroslavsky, unanimously carried, the Board took the following actions:

1. Directed the Chief Administrative Officer to work in collaboration with the Director of Mental Health, the Treasurer and Tax Collector, County Counsel, and the Executive Officer/Clerk of the Superior Court on future anticipated fiscal and/or resource needs for the Public Guardian probate conservatorship program through the year 2010, and report back to the Board within 60 days;
2. Directed the Chief Administrative Officer to work in collaboration with the Public Guardian, the Director of Consumer Affairs and County Counsel, to report back to the Board in two weeks with recommendations on the oversight and monitoring of private conservators in Los Angeles County; and
3. Directed the Public Guardian to report back to the Board in two weeks on the following:
 - The status of an implementation plan and timeline of the Blue Consulting recommendations for improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the Public Guardian’s operations and service delivery in conjunction with the Auditor-Controller;
 - The status of the Guardian Circle volunteer program in the effort of expanding visitation of conservatees in Los Angeles County, which may also include efforts to partner with related volunteer programs servicing similar populations; and

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- Efficiencies that may be addressed and implemented regarding organization structure, accountability, and responsibility in meeting the needs of the elderly or otherwise infirmed individuals who are not able to care for themselves in Los Angeles County.

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Copies distributed:

Each Supervisor

Deputy Director, Public Guardian,
Department of Mental Health

(ALSO SEE BOARD ORDER NO. 19 THIS DATE)